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Kittson County*



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Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

**Held on Wednesday July 12th, 2017 at 7:00 AM at Kittson County Courthouse
Meeting Room.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday July 12th, 2017 at 7:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

Members present at the meeting included: Chairman CJ Peterson; Vice Chairman, Joe Wilebski; Secretary, Heather Peterson; Treasurer; Justin Dagen, and Public Relations, Ron Anderson.

Others present at the meeting were District Technician Jeremy Benson, District Technician Justin Muller, District Administrator Jamie Osowski, and District Conservationist Jim Schwab and Soil Conservationist Michael Steinhauer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The minutes from the June 12th, 2017, Board meeting were reviewed and upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the June 2017 minutes.

Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Dagen and unanimous vote of the supervisors, the Treasurer's report was approved as reported by Jamie Osowski.

Jim Schwab and Michael Steinhauer gave the NRCS Report:

Cultural Resources Awareness Month

CSP/EQIP: Next EQIP signup will be August 17th, postcards are being sent out. Mike has been handling all the applications, 1 funded project has been partially completed; has not been paid on. Other funded project has not been started yet. Have received 4 CSP applications, they are in the ranking period.

CRP: Both Jim and Mike have been out doing site visits, most will be reseeding all acres. Jim is also having all buffer strips be burned in the first 3 years. Jim also reported that there is a batch of CRP applications at FSA and nothing has been heard on them yet.

Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

Buffers: Justin reported that the Kittson SWCD and the County Commissioners will be holding a Buffer Enforcement planning meeting on Tuesday July 18th at 2PM and we would like to have board members present. The county needs to have an ordinance in place by September 1st. Discussion was

had on what the Kittson SWCD would like to do with enforcement. Justin presented a proposal that the staff put together on enforcement by the Kittson SWCD. The proposal will be presented to the County Commissioners at the planning meeting on July 18th. Justin presented a resolution to the board for the Buffer Cost Share and the rates that will be offered with this program. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the resolution and rates for cost share. Justin spoke to the board about the staff in the office being the technical representatives for State Cost share applications, motion was made by Dagen and seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to allow all Kittson SWCD staff to be the Technical representatives for the Kittson SWCD Buffer Cost Share program. While we were on the Buffer discussion, Jamie reported to the board that Kittson SWCD received the grant agreement for the Buffer Cost Share program at the amount of \$225,000. Motion was made by H. Peterson and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Buffer Cost Share Grant Agreement. Jeremy also spoke to the board on running a Buffer Cost Share Radio Ad, discussion was had on the price of running the ad for 2 months. Jeremy reported that the price would run at \$3,700 and be ran from approximately July 24th though September 24th.

WCA: Justin reported that he has been working on a Wetland Banking application and banking projects.

CAI: Justin reported that he has been writing Leafy Spurge letters. Also the Conservation Corps have been spraying Dalmatian Toadflax.

Other: Justin spoke to the board about the MDA contacting him on the districts interest in doing Elk Damage site visits.

SSTS: Justin reported that he is working on a septic upgrade for Bakke's and also working on getting the Frog Pond's septic system up to compliance.

Jeremy Benson gave the District Technician Report

One Watershed One Plan: Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to extend the County Local Water Plan to 2022.

State Cost Share: Jeremy reported that Jim Hest was up to survey the Paul Gillie site, he reported that this project is bigger than just a streambank project. Jim recommended that the district should try and apply for a Clean Water Fund for that portion of the river.

Other: Jeremy reported that he will be attending RUSLE 2 training in Detroit Lakes on July 13th. He will also be attending Conservation Planning training on August 15th through the 18th. Jeremy reported on rain gauge readings, in the month of May Kittson County saw an average of 1.14 inches and 3.11 inches average in June. Jeremy also reported that the DNR Ob Well contract was approved and readings can begin for July. Also the pickup should be in at Westside Motors by the end of the week. Jeremy asked the board what they would like to do for the decals on the pickup, the last time we put decals on they were put on by Custom Stripes for \$120.00. Board stated they did a good job so go with them again.

Jamie Osowski gave the District Manger report:

Operational Agreement: Jamie reported to the board on the Operational Agreement that was drawn up between the Kittson SWCD and NRCS. This agreement needs to be submitted to the NRCS State Conservationist by July 14th. Discussion was had on how this Operational Agreement was drawn up.

Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Operational Agreement and submit agreement to NRCS State Conservationist.

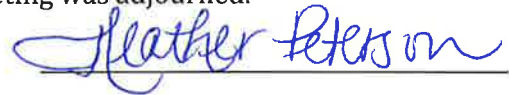
Ag BMP Loan: Jamie reported that the office received an Ag BMP Loan from Brian Dahl for a John Deere No Till Air Seeder at the price of \$105,500.00. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Ag BMP loan for Brian Dahl.

County Budget: Jamie reported that she received the counties budget requests, Jamie asked the board at what level they would like to ask the county for an increase. The past 3 years have been a 3% increase. The Kittson SWCD is also eligible Capacity county funds up to \$22,750 that will be matched by BWSR. Last year the staff went to the county board and asked for the same amount and received \$10,000. The staff have a couple projects in mind that this money could go towards and they will bring these projects to the August 1st commissioners meeting. Motion was made by H. Peterson and Seconded by Dagen and unanimous vote of supervisors to ask the county for a 3% increase on County Ag Inspector and County allocation.

Other: Jamie reported that the fair was a success this year and the new building was ready for the event. Jamie also spoke to the board about purchasing new pens for promotional items and wanted the boards opinion on pen and ink colors. Jamie also reported that she will be on maternity leave starting August 11th and she will be taking 10 weeks off.

August Board Meeting: The August Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday August 9th, 2017 at 7:00 AM in the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.



Heather Peterson, Secretary